

As for Mutukulam *proverthi*, Kartikapalli taluk, an extent of about 137 acres was encroached upon by the sea in the Arattupuzha *pakuthi* of the same *proverthi* within the last 15 years. The tax on these lands has been struck off the accounts. Government have no information in regard to the loss sustained by the people on account of encroachments by the sea and the bar. Government cannot afford relief in such cases.

*Prawn Industry in Travancore.*

410. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): (a) Are the Government aware that the prawn industry in the State is handicapped by continuous and heavy fluctuations of prices in the Rangoon market?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to enquire into the effect of fluctuations in prices in the Rangoon market upon the fisherfolk and their industry in the State and take immediate steps to improve the position?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) The Government are informed that the prices of prawns in the Rangoon market are subject to continuous and heavy fluctuations.

(b) Such fluctuations cannot be regulated by any action of the Government. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Director of Industries will be instructed to help the fisherfolk concerned with suggestions and advice.

*Mr. A. O. Jacob as X-ray Expert.*

411. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (a) Is it a fact that one Mr. A. O. Jacob has been ordered by the Darbar Physician to undergo X-ray training in England at his own expense on the understanding that he would be provided with a place in the Medical Department on his return?

(b) Was any one in the department asked whether he was prepared to undergo training at his own expense in England?

(c) Why did the Government not depute medical men already in the service to undergo training at Dehra Dhun?

(d) Have the Government given an undertaking that Mr. A. O. Jacob will be entertained in the service as soon as he returns after training?

(e) Do the Government intend to retain him permanently in the X-ray Department on his return?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) Mr. A. O. Jacob B. A., M. B. B. S., applied to the Darbar Physician and the Government stating that he would specialise in electro-therapeutics in England if the Government would entertain him in the Medical Department on his return. On the recommendation of the Darbar Physician, Government sanctioned the acceptance of Mr. Jacob's offer subject to the following conditions: